

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of October 6, 2003. Entry of this amendment and favorable action is respectfully requested. A petition for a one-month extension of time and the required fee are enclosed.

First, the objections under U.S. 35(c)§112 are believed to be taken care of by the amendments to claims 2, 9 and 13. Claim 2 has been redefined to remove the indefiniteness, it is respectfully submitted. The directions of movement have been identified as forward and reverse directions. Claim 9 has been shortened substantially to conform to amended claim 5, from which it now depends. Claim 13 also has been shortened and made definite.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the adjustable actuator of claim 3, and since claim 3 was indicated as being allowable, it is respectfully believed that claim 1 as now amended, and claims 2 and 4, which depend from claim 1 are believed allowable therewith.

Claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1, and since claim 5 was indicated as being allowable, it is believed that this amended claim now is allowable along with its dependent claims 6-10.

Claim 11 has been amended to define over the cited reference to Keagle et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,460,640. Claim 11 now includes a hydraulic valve block, with the actuator levers pivoted on the valve block and having return members that extend from the actuator levers that swing in an arc as the respective actuator levers are pivoted to move sliding valves.

The levers are thus actually mounted onto a valve block, as claimed in claim 11, and thus this claim follows in content, but not in exact wording, claim 5 which was indicated as being allowable.

The Keagle et al. reference does not indicate the use of a return on levers that are pivotally mounted onto a valve block, and wherein the levers have a return member or projection that extends outwardly from the levers and is engaged by the pivoting panel.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 11, as well as dependent claims 12-15 are allowable.

Claims 16, 17 and 18 have been canceled by this amendment.

In view of the above, it is believed that the case is in condition for allowance. An action to that effect is respectfully requested.

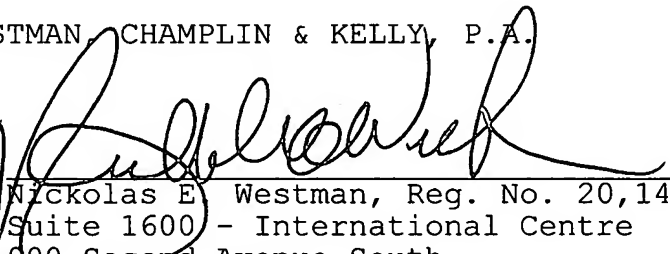
A petition for a one-month extension of time together with the required fee is enclosed. If further fees are necessary, please charge the undersigned attorney's deposit account.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By:


Nickolas E. Westman, Reg. No. 20,147
Suite 1600 - International Centre
900 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

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- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.
8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5681-57200.

Respectfully submitted,



B. Noël Kivlin
Reg. No. 33,929
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C.
700 Lavaca, Suite 800
Austin, Texas 78701-3102
Phone: (512) 853-8840
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